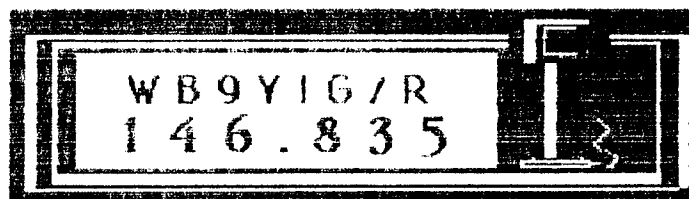


Mid-State Amateur Radio Club

President: Joe Vergara KA9ZPA
Vice Pres: Keith Coburn K9PDI
Secretary: Bob Dules WB9AYB
Treasurer: Mac McCarty KV9K
Repeater Trustee: David Julian WB9YDG



The Spark-Gap

AUGUST 1992

RESULTS: JULY VE TESTING

Tina Burgett	Indianapolis	NC Tech
Larry Clingman *	KB9HWV N. Whiteland	Tech
David Craig	Shelbyville	NC Tech
Tom Daugherty	Greenwood	NC Tech
Mike Holland *	N9NTQ Whiteland	Advanced
Ronald Long	Indianapolis	NC Tech
LeRoy Thompson	Indianapolis	NC Tech

* indicates member of MARC

TESTING OPPORTUNITIES IN AUGUST

AUGUST 15	FRANKLIN Mac	NV9K 736-6320
AUGUST 19	RCA Jack	251-6000
AUGUST 29	RED CROSS Joe	291-3569



NEWSLINE was first transmitted on the Sunday night net.

A proposed constitution was sent to all members for consideration at the next meeting.

Three club members changed addresses: Ross Marlin N9DZR, Darrell Sego KM9S, and Dan Cannack W9MLN.

Two new members joined the club: They were Larry Walters N9MKR and Dale Dukate K19T.

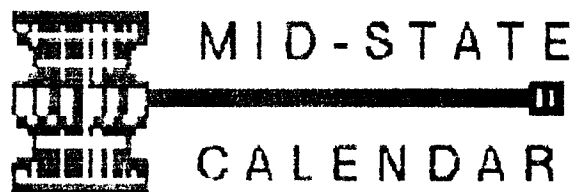
NEW MEMBER

At the July club meeting we signed Dave Heckman, N9IKI. Dave is a metallurgist with Chrysler in Indianapolis.

APPEAL TO THE FCC

The FCC has thus far been unwilling to reconsider an earlier rule prohibiting companies like Prodigy and Compuserve from using new and more efficient technologies or service offerings without being subject to common carrier access charges 3-4 times higher than charges they now pay. At least some of these charges would likely be passed along to users of the information services.

In 1987, a letter-writing campaign by online users helped prevent increased access charges from being implemented. It is hoped that users will again respond by contacting their senators and the FCC voicing their objections to these additional access charges.



AUGUST 15 CLUB MEETING 8 00 A.M.

Business State of officers presented by the nominating committee.

Nominations from the floor.

New business: Discussion of the new tower project (PROJECT 2000). See page 2 for more information on this.

Program: Video Tape 'Spark-Gap' if time allows.

AUGUST 22 Equestrian event. Help is needed. See Jack NT9J.

PROJECT 2000

It's called project 2000! It's an opportunity to move into the 21st century with a higher profile and even more state of the art repeater system! The Midstate Amateur Radio Club has been given the opportunity to move the club repeater to the 450 foot level of the WTTV tower in Trafalgar! At the August 15th club meeting the executive committee will recommend that we accept this unique offer.

Several reasons were cited for making this move. The present tower has become unsafe. A split in one of the tower legs and corroding guy wires have made it unsafe to climb. The tower is in need of new paint and a new grounding system to replace grounding cables damaged by lightning.

By moving to the WTTV tower we would eliminate the need for the current tower, grounding system, and repeater shack. Space would be provided in the WTTV transmitter building for our radio equipment with the antenna attached at the 450 foot level. The largest benefits would come in the form of a much wider coverage area and less maintenance.

An offer like this seems almost too good to be true! Well, there is a catch. And it won't be cheap. The move will cost us about \$3000.00. Broken down that's about one thousand for the professional tower crew, another \$600.00 for a new antenna, and close to \$1200.00 for the half-inch hard line. Also there will be another four or five hundred dollars in incidental hardware to complete the project.

On the other side of the ledger estimates to repair and bring our current repeater site up to standards are put at

\$2000.00. Either way, we are forced to make some hard decisions in the coming weeks! Everybody's attendance is requested at the August 15th meeting to discuss this important matter. More details about the project and it's funding will be available later.

EQUESTRIAN EVENT

On Saturday August 22nd, Midstate Amateur Radio Club members will man the cross country course at the Hoosier Horse Park in Camp Atterbury for another equestrian event. Again, we have been requested by the Indiana Combined Training Association to help with communications during the cross-country event. Check-ins will begin at 8:30 AM next to the officials tent near the start/finish line. We will use the frequency 145.55 simplex for the net control. Plan on a full day activity. Event planners say we will be needed until about 6:00 o'clock. They will provide lunches for each radio operator. Everyone will be able to park their vehicle at their respective jump if needed. Bring plenty of liquid refreshments, sun tan lotion, bug repellent, radio, batteries and a lawn chair. This will be an excellent opportunity for all of our new Tech class operators to try out their new radios while participating in a day-long net! Even if your schedule allows you to only help in the morning or afternoon, contact Jack Parker, NT9J at 881-0817. About 22 radio operators will be needed for the event.

**HOPE TO SEE YOU AT THE MEETING
THIS SATURDAY!**